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PATENT APPLICATION  
Mo6259  
PS-1046

#3/A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Jreda  
3/19/03

APPLICATION OF )  
AKHTAR OSMAN ET AL )  
SERIAL NUMBER: TO BE ASSIGNED )  
FILED: HEREWITH )  
TITLE: GEL REDUCTION IN HIGH CIS- )  
1,4 POLYBUTADIENE )  
PRODUCTION PROCESS )

PCT/CA99/00804

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicants respectfully request that the present application be amended as follows after assignment of a serial number and a filing date, but before examination.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-32.

Please add the following new Claims.

--33. A process for the production of cis-1,4-polybutadiene having a low level of gel content, comprising polymerizing 1,3-butadiene in the presence of a catalyst and a polymerization diluent, wherein the polymerization diluent comprises an organic solvent and water particles having a median particle size less than or equal to about 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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Date of Deposit March 2, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

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